

MAR 12 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII FARMERS
UNION UNITED TO COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH A NUTRIENT
RECYCLING CENTER PILOT PROJECT.

1 WHEREAS, the State supports efforts that strengthen
2 Hawaii's self-sustainability; and
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4 WHEREAS, self-sustainability is furthered by efforts that
5 develop Hawaii's own secure production of food, fiber, and fuel;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling fosters agricultural production
9 by building soil health and fertility; and
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11 WHEREAS, without nutrient recycling, nutrients flow from
12 farmland into food, which depletes nutrients in the soil and
13 forces farmers to use commercial fertilizers that consume fossil
14 fuels during fertilizer production; and
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16 WHEREAS, the use of commercial fertilizers decreases soil
17 health and species diversity, creates increased pesticide use,
18 and reduces the nutrient density of food; and
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20 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling puts end products back into the
21 land-based food chain instead of generating waste or causing
22 pollution as with food waste; and
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24 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling benefits local agriculture by
25 lowering production costs, increasing yields, and leaving the
26 soil in revitalized condition; and
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28 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling also reduces waste streams; and
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30 WHEREAS, research conducted at nutrient recycling centers
31 focuses on a whole system of agriculture, identifying the



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1 optimum overall solution instead of one that just produces the
2 highest crop yield; and
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4 WHEREAS, a nutrient recycling center in Hawaii would
5 promote environmental, economic, and social benefits for the
6 State along with food and energy security for Hawaii residents;
7 now, therefore,
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Chairperson of the
12 Board of Agriculture is requested to collaborate with the Hawaii
13 Farmers Union United to establish a nutrient recycling center
14 pilot project on Maui; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center
17 be located near prime agriculture land on Maui; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center
20 pilot project:
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- 22 (1) Create an inventory of available resources for farming
23 inputs;
24
- 25 (2) Identify key stakeholders in the State and throughout
26 the counties;
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- 28 (3) Segregate materials to stockpile and process,
29 including segregation of organic and non-organic
30 inputs and beneficial microbial inoculants for
31 remediation of potential contaminants;
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- 33 (4) Develop methodology for complete composting process
34 and distribution;
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- 36 (5) Collaborate with local restaurants to establish farm-
37 to-table recycling of nutrients;
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- 39 (6) Develop best use practices for compost and local
40 nutrient production;
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1 (7) Quantify the economic impacts of nutrient recycling;
2 and

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4 (8) Consider the issues of regulatory barriers, landfill
5 solid waste diversion, and "buy local" marketing and
6 outreach; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center
9 pilot project location be used as an information center for
10 local famers to disseminate information to Maui farmers as well
11 as collect and utilize the expertise of local farmers and
12 professionals in the agricultural industry; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center
15 pilot project offer hands-on workshops for local farmers; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
18 and Hawaii Farmers Union United are requested to submit a report
19 of findings and recommendations related to the nutrient
20 recycling center pilot project, including any proposed
21 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
22 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
26 Board of Agriculture and President of the Hawaii Farmers Union
27 United Board of Directors.
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OFFERED BY:

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Sp. Privie

